

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method and apparatus for enabling the use of a non-sterile battery with a sterile surgical instrument. The sterile transfer container has a tubular body with a closed distal end and an open proximal end. The container is provided with a cover and a locking mechanism for locking the cover to the body. The container is adapted to be attached to a surgical instrument in such a way that the latch assembly is prevented from opening until the container is removed from the instrument.